

Name:

KEY

Period:

1. Draw, in color, with detail, your interpretation/perspective of the Critical Zone.
2. Explain your drawing, with regards to the Critical Zone.

The critical zone is considered to be the Earth's outer skin, which is composed of many attributes: rock, soil, water, air, and living organisms. When these abiotic and biotic factors work together, it stabilizes the environment, as well as creates resources needed by all. Gases and water cycle through all these layers, from bottom to top, allowing all the components within those layers to live successfully, over, and through time. The critical zone marks one of the most unique places on Earth, with all the biodiversity and its' requirements. When all the layers of the critical zone are lumped together over the years, and it goes through all the geological processes, it forms the main component — soil. Soil then determines the entire outcome of the critical zone.



